

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/724,146	BINNARD ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Gordon J Stock	2877	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 8/24/04.
  2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5,7,8,10-13,16-20,22-26,28-30 and 32-44.
  3. ☒ The drawings filed on 24 August 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
  4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
    - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

*Allowable Subject Matter*

1. **Claims 1-5, 7, 8, 10-13, 16-20, 22-26, 28-30, and 32-44** are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As to **claim 1**, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious in a stage assembly the particular stage mover assembly, the particular two fiducial marks, and the particular control system, in combination with the rest of the limitations of **claims 1-5, 7, 8, 10-12**.

As to **claim 13**, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious in an exposure apparatus the particular two fiducial marks and particular controller, in combination with the rest of the limitations of **claims 13, 33-44**.

As to **claim 16**, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious in a method for determining the relative positions of a first X mirror and a second X mirror the particular two fiducial marks and 'determining the position of the first X mirror relative to the second X mirror using the plurality of fiducial marks,' in combination with the rest of the limitations of **claim 16-20 and 22-23**.

As to **claim 24**, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious in a method for making a stage assembly that moves a device the particular two fiducial marks and providing a controller that determines the position of the first X mirror relative to the second X mirror using the plurality of fiducial marks, in combination with the rest of the limitations of **claims 24-26, 28-30**.

As to **claim 32**, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious in a method of making a device the particular two fiducial marks and the

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particular step of providing a controller, in combination with the rest of the limitations of **claim 32**.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Response to Arguments***

2. Applicant's arguments, see Remarks, filed August 24, 2004, with respect to the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) in the previous action have been fully considered and are persuasive. In view of the amendment of the claims and the persuasiveness of the arguments, the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the claims has been withdrawn.

### ***Fax/Telephone Numbers***

If the applicant wishes to send a fax dealing with either a proposed amendment or a discussion with a phone interview, then the fax should:

1) Contain either a statement "DRAFT" or "PROPOSED AMENDMENT" on the fax cover sheet; and

2) Should be unsigned by the attorney or agent.

This will ensure that it will not be entered into the case and will be forwarded to the examiner as quickly as possible.

*Papers related to the application may be submitted to Group 2800 by Fax transmission. Papers should be faxed to Group 2800 via the PTO Fax machine located in Crystal Plaza 4. The form of such papers must conform to the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989). The CP4 Fax Machine number is: (703) 872-9306*

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gordon J. Stock whose telephone number is (571) 272-2431.

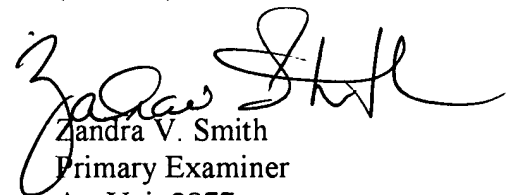
The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory J. Toatley, Jr., can be reached at 571-272-2800 ext 77.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private Pair system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
gs

September 13, 2004

  
Zandra V. Smith  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2877